PRESS NOTE

14th May, 2020

Maintaining social distance and adhering to guidelines is mandatory at all public places: DGP

Gandhinagar, Wednesday: Director General of Police Mr. Shivanand Jha said that police are keeping a watchful eye on the movement of people to curb the spread of Corona. Those found violating the lockdown will face strict actions.

The police are on their toes to ensure that no public gatherings take place, but in some cases, people were found gathering without any valid reason. Also, if people are caught loitering around unnecessarily, their vehicles will be detained. Similarly, some vendors are selling prohibited items during lockdown which can lead to legal consequences.

Mr. Jha reiterated guidelines and said that if more than one person on two-wheelers and more than two persons are found in four-wheelers, actions will be taken against them. Likewise, gathering at religious places is prohibited. Despite clear instructions, 8 people including a pujari were booked yesterday for gathering at a temple in Sabarmati, Ahmedabad for the evening prayer.

The state police condemn forging passes and misusing valid permits given for essential services. To ensure that people do not misuse the services, the police are checking passes and permissions for all vehicles. Talking about an incident that took place yesterday, Mr. Jha said a container was caught ferrying 105 workers from Rajkot to another state at Umreth in Anand district. The owner of the container has been booked for the offence and the vehicle has been detained. On the other hand, the state monitoring cell seized a container full of liquor worth Rs. 51 lakh on Palanpur highway. A case has been registered for misuse of essential service permit.

Vegetable vendors and grocery stores will be given special relaxations from tomorrow in some areas including Ahmedabad city. The use of masks, sanitizer, and maintaining social distance is mandatory. The rule is also applicable to industries functioning in various districts.

Regarding the violation of the lockdown in public places, the police have taken strict action on violators based on the complaints received on police helpline number 100 of areas where social distancing is not being followed and has urged the citizens to continue being aware and report any such incidents. 36 cases were registered yesterday and legal action has been taken based on these complaints.

Throwing light on the significant use of drones and CCTV during the lockdown, Mr. Jha said that, the cities and towns are being thoroughly observed through drone surveillance. 204 crimes have been registered through drones. A total of 23272 people have been arrested for 12840 offenses to date. Meanwhile, under the Smart City and VISWAS project, 101 individuals have been arrested for 100 crimes reported through the CCTV network tallying up to 4453 individuals for 3311 crimes. Additionally, 708 crimes have been registered so far and 978 people have been arrested through CCTV surveillance in residential societies.
Similarly, for spreading fake messages and rumors through social media, so far 789 crimes have been registered and 1618 accused have been arrested. 744 accounts have been blocked so far. 6823 offenses have been registered so far respectively, through videography and automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) and with camera mounted special 'Prahari' Van.

Cases that have been registered so far include 2218 of the violation of lockdown, 718 against those violating quarantine, and 616 other cases. Also, 5828 vehicles have been seized in the state while 2,34,692 detained vehicles have been released so far.

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